



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 750  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/806,618

10/09/2001

Alon Atsmon

100/02143

4568

44909

7590

12/28/2006

WOLF, BLOCK, SCHORR & SOLIS-COHEN LLP  
250 PARK AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10177

EXAMINER

BAROT, BHARAT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2155

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
--	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

12/28/2006

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/806,618	<b>Applicant(s)</b> ATSMON ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Bharat N. Barot	<b>Art Unit</b> 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,8-14,17-24,27,34-41,43-45,50-59,146,149,151 and 154-157 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-3, 8-14, 17-24, 27, 34-41, 43-45, 50-59, 146, 149, 151, and 154-157 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT**

1. Claims 2-3, 8-14, 17-24, 27, 34-41, 43-45, 50-59, 146, 149, 151, and 154-155; and new claims 156-157 remain for further examination.

**The old rejection maintained**

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2, 8, 34, and 155 filed on October 05, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive for the claims 2, 8, 34, and 155. The rejection is respectfully maintained as set forth in the last Office Action mailed on April 06, 2006.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claims 2-3, 12-14, 27, 34-41, 43-45, 50-59, 146, 151, and 155-157 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over, Fong et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,182,044) in view of August et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,055).

5. As to claims 2-3, Fong et al teach a method of communicating between an electronic device a computer, comprising: providing the computer with an audible sound receiving and generating sub-system including a microphone and a loudspeaker; transmitting from the electronic device at least one first acoustic signal to the computer;

Art Unit: 2155

receiving the at least one first acoustic signal by the microphone, to be detected by the computer; processing the at least one first acoustic signal; and transmitting to the electronic device, using the loudspeaker, at least a second acoustic signal, encoded with information, in response with the detected at least one first acoustic signal (abstract; figures 1-2; and column 2 lines 35 to column 6 line 3).

However, Fong et al do not teach that transmitting from a electronic device at least one first acoustic signal, encoded with information, to the computer and processing the at least one first acoustic signal to extract the encoded information; and also do not disclose that the acoustic signal comprises an ultrasonic signal.

August et al teach that transmitting from a electronic device at least one first acoustic signal, encoded with information, to the computer and processing the at least one first acoustic signal to extract the encoded information; and also disclose that the acoustic signal comprises an ultrasonic signal (abstract; summary of the invention; figures 1 and 5; column 2 line 66 to column 3 line 58; column 4 lines 13-35; column 5 lines 10-17; and column 5 lines 24-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of August et al stated above in the method of Fong et al for communicating with an electronic device having a computer because it would have maximized the utilization of the electronic device and improved efficient usage of the electronic device.

6. As to claims 12-14, August et al teach that the computer comprises a personal digital assistant, a portable computer, and a desktop computer (figure 2; and column 5 line 42 to column 6 line 3).
7. As to claim 27, August et al teach that the controlling at least one action of a toy, responsive to the received at least one audible sound (column 6 lines 29-53; and column 10 line 65 to column 11 line 10).
8. As to claims 34-35, August et al teach that the electronic device comprises a toy and the information comprises stored player input (column 10 line 65 to column 11 line 10).
9. As to claims 36-40, August et al teach that the electronic device comprises a smart card, a wireless communication device, a computer, and a computer peripheral; and the encoded information comprises personal information (figure 4; and column 5 lines 18-35).
10. As to claim 41, Fong et al teach that the logging into the computer responsive to the at least one first acoustic signal (figures 1-2; and columns 2-5).

Art Unit: 2155

11. As to claims 43-45, August et al teach that the acoustic signal comprises human audible sound, wherein the human audible sound has a main frequency over 10kHz and infra-sonic (figures 4-5; and column 5 lines 17 to column 6 line 11).

12. As to claims 50-51, August et al teach that the audible sound subsystem comprises a sound card and a SoundBlaster compatible sound card (figures 4-5 and 9; column 5 line 17 to column 10 line 64; and column 14 lines 33-59).

13. As to claims 52-59, August et al teach that the sound sub-system is designed for audible sound communication with a human operator (figures 1 and 3; and column 3 lines 19-28); and the ultrasonic signal has a verity of frequency (column 3 line 59 to column 4 line 35; and column 5 lines 44-51).

14. As to claims 146 and 151, August et al teach that the electronic device comprises a telephone and the information comprises e-commerce information (figure 1 and 4; column 2 line 66 to column 3 line 58; and column 5 lines 17-35).

15. As claim 155, August et al teach that the at least one ultrasonic signal comprises a standalone signal not overlaid on a human tangible signal (see figures 1 and 3-6).

Art Unit: 2155

16. As to claim 156, August et al teach that the at least one first acoustic signal is digitally encoded with information (abstract; summary of the invention; figures 1 and 5; column 2 line 66 to column 3 line 58; column 4 lines 13-35; column 5 lines 10-17; and column 5 lines 24-35).

17. As to claim 157, August et al teach that the responding by computer to the at least one first acoustic signal, as if the computer received an input from a pointing device or a touch screen (figures 5-6; and column 6 lines 11-53).

18. Claims 17-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fong et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,182,044) in view of August et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,055) as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Foxlin (U.S. Patent No. 6,176,837).

19. As to claims 17-24, neither Fong et al nor August et al teach that the processing comprises determining a distance between the microphone and the electronic device, movement of the microphone relative to the electronic wherein the movement comprises angular movement and translation, a spatial position of the microphone relative to the electronic device wherein the spatial position is a one/two/three dimensionals spatial position.

Foxlin teaches that the processing comprises determining a distance between the microphone and the electronic device, movement of the microphone relative to the

Art Unit: 2155

electronic device wherein the movement comprises angular movement and translation, a spatial position of the microphone relative to the electronic device wherein the spatial position is a one/two/three dimensional spatial position (abstract; summary of the invention; figures 1-4; and column 3 line 25 to column 5 line 44).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Foxlin stated above in the method of Fong et al for communicating with an electronic device having a computer because it would have maximized the utilization of the electronic device and improved efficient usage of the electronic device.

20. Claims 8-11, 149, and 154 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over, Sebestyen (U.S. Patent No. 5,847,752) in view of August et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,055).

21. As to claims 8 and 11, Sebestyen teach a method of communicating with an electronic device having a computer, comprising: providing the computer having a sound receiving and generating sub-system including a microphone; transmitting from a source at least one first acoustic signal to the computer; receiving the at least one acoustic signal by the microphone; and forwarding an indication of the information to a remote computer, over the Internet (abstract and summary of the invention; figure 1; column 7 line 60 to column 8 line 43; and column 10 line 19 to column 11 line 60).



However, Sebestyen does not teach that transmitting from a source at least one first acoustic signal, encoded with information, to the computer; and also do not disclose that the acoustic signal comprises an ultrasonic signal and a stand alone signal not overlaid on a human tangible signal.

August et al teach that transmitting from a source at least one first acoustic signal, encoded with information, to the computer and forwarding an indication of the information to a remote electronic device having a computer, over the Internet; and also disclose that the acoustic signal comprises an ultrasonic signal and a stand alone signal not overlaid on a human tangible signal (abstract; summary of the invention; figures 1 and 3-6; column 2 line 66 to column 3 line 58; column 4 lines 13-35; column 5 lines 10-17; and column 5 lines 24-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of August et al stated above in the method of Sebestyen for communicating with an electronic device having a computer because it would have maximized the utilization of the electronic device and improved efficient usage of the electronic device.

22. As to claims 9-10, Sebestyen teaches that the indication comprises a sound file and a data file (figure 1; and column 8 lines 1-11 and 57-63).

Art Unit: 2155

23. As to claims 149 and 154, August et al teach that the source comprises a telephone and the information comprises e-commerce information (figure 1 and 4; column 2 line 66 to column 3 line 58; and column 5 lines 17-35).

### **Response to Arguments**

24. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2, 8, 34, and 155 filed on October 05, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive for the claims 2, 8, 34, and 155.

25. In the remarks, the applicant argues that:

**(A) Argument:** Neither of these references teaches or suggests: transmitting to the electronic device, using the loudspeaker, at least a second acoustic signal, encoded with information, in response with the detected at least one first acoustic signal as required by claim 2.

**Response:** Combination of the references (Fong et al and August et al) explicitly teaches that transmitting to the electronic device, using the loudspeaker or via human control device, at least a second acoustic signal, encoded with information, in response with the detected at least one first acoustic signal (see August et al figure 3 and columns 4-5).

**(B) Argument:** Neither of these references teaches or suggests: controlling at least one action of a toy.

**Response:** Applicant did not specify that toy is a playing toy not an electronic device. August et al explicitly teach that controlling at least one action of a capture device having handset and keypad, which is functionally equivalent to the controlling an electronic toy (column 6 lines 29-53; and column 10 line 65 to column 11 line 10).

**(C) Argument:** Neither of these references teaches or suggests that at least one ultrasonic signal comprises a standalone signal not overlaid on a human tangible signal.

**Response:** August et al teach that transmitting from a source at least one first acoustic signal, encoded with information, to the computer and forwarding an indication of the information to a remote electronic device having a computer, over the Internet; and also disclose that the acoustic signal comprises an ultrasonic signal and a stand alone signal not overlaid on a human tangible signal (abstract; summary of the invention; figures 1 and 3-6; column 2 line 66 to column 3 line 58; column 4 lines 13-35; column 5 lines 10-17; and column 5 lines 24-35).

**(D) Argument:** August does not suggest that the computer respond to acoustic signals from the mouse as it would related to a touch screen, or in fact to relate to acoustic signals from the mouse at all.

**Response:** August et al teach that the responding by computer to the at least one first acoustic signal, as if the computer received an input from a pointing device (a smart mouse device) or a touch screen (figures 5-6; column 2 lines 22-39; and column 6 lines 11-53).

Art Unit: 2155

26. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

**Contact Information**


27. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bharat Barot** whose Telephone Number is (571) 272-3979. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM. Most facsimile-transmitted patent application related correspondence is required to be sent to the Central FAX Number (571) 273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Saleh Najjar**, can be reached at (571) 272-4006.

Patent Examiner Bharat Barot

Art Unit 2155

December 21, 2006

  
BHARAT BAROT  
PRIMARY EXAMINER